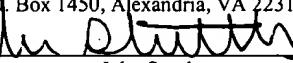




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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 20, 2003.


John Stattler

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

Coates et al.

Serial No.: 09/695,499

Filing Date: 10/23/2000

For: A NETWORK STORAGE SYSTEM

Examiner: Hwang, Joon H

Group Art Unit: 2172

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Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 20, 2002, please amend the patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 4 and 15, and amend claims 1 and 11 as follows:

1. (Once Amended)

A network storage system comprising: